



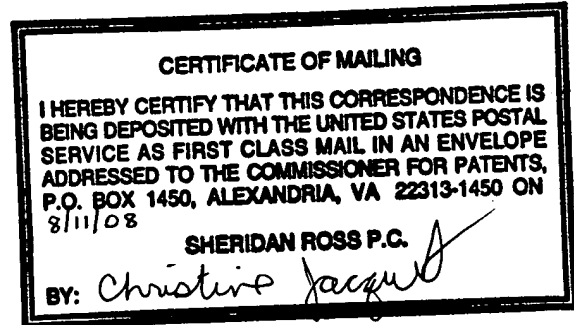
IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:) Group Art Unit: 1754
)
HACKL et al.) Examiner: FIORITO, J.
)
Serial No.: 10/713,640) Confirmation No.: 1650
)
Filed: November 13, 2003)
)
Atty. File No.: 4764-32)
)
For: "METHOD FOR THIOSULFATE)
LEACHING OF PRECIOUS METAL-)
CONTAINING MATERIALS")

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Dear Sir:

In an Office Action dated July 11, 2008, the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement with regard to the above-identified patent application. Generally, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-7 and 49-59 (Group I), drawn to a method, classified in class 423, subclass 23, and Claims 60-77, drawn to a method classified in class 423, subclass 1+ were distinct inventions. Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Claims 60-77 (Group II) in this patent application. However, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue Claims 1-7 and 49-59 in a subsequent divisional/continuation application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 11, 2008